

REMARKS

Formal Matters

Claims 1-20 are pending.

Claims 1-20 were examined. Claims 1-20 were rejected.

Claims 1, 2, 11 and 14 are amended. These amendments were made solely in the interest of expediting prosecution, and are not to be construed as an acquiescence to any objection or rejection of any claim. Support for the amendments is found in the claims as originally filed, and throughout the specification, in particular at the following exemplary locations: page 3, lines 27-29 and page 7, lines 25-28. Accordingly, no new matter is added by these amendments.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the remarks made herein.

Rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mason (5,712,480). The Office asserts that Mason assertedly discloses a data acquisition system that anticipates the claimed invention. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Without wishing to acquiesce to the correctness of this rejection and solely to expedite prosecution, the pending claims have been amended to recite an accumulator that is configured to accumulate data samples through at least two accumulation paths *to provide a summation of said data samples of said different paths*. In other words, the claimed system and method provides a summation of data samples accumulated in different paths.

In contrast to the invention set forth in the rejected claims, Mason merely independently accumulates two sets of data samples through independent accumulation paths. In other words, Mason sums corresponding data samples through a single accumulation path and does not sum corresponding data samples

of different accumulation paths, as required by the claims.

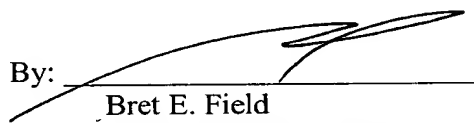
As such, Mason fails to teach an element of the claimed invention and cannot anticipate the claims. Accordingly, this rejection may be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

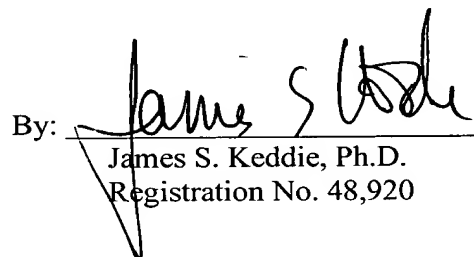
The applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone Timothy Joyce at 650 485 4310. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1078.

Respectfully submitted,

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